



Patent Application  
Attorney Docket No.: 57983-000029  
Client Reference No.: 13257ROUS02U

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :  
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Herman Kwong et al. : Group Art Unit: 2841  
:   
Appln. No.: 09/749,409 :   
: Examiner: J. Alcala  
Filed: December 28, 2000 :   
:   
For: HIGH DATA RATE COAXIAL :   
INTERCONNECT TECHNOLOGY :   
BETWEEN PRINTED WIRING BOARDS :

Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 9, 2001,  
please consider the following remarks in relation to the above-  
referenced patent application.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 9, 2001, has been received and carefully considered. Claims 1-30 are pending in the present application. In this response, reconsideration of claims 1-30 is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

I. THE ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the present application contains claims directed to two patentably distinct inventions: one invention covered by claims 1-12 and 25-27 drawn to a method of making a printed circuit board; and another invention covered by claims 13-24 and 28-30 drawn to a system for electrically interconnecting a signal between circuit boards.

The Applicant hereby respectfully traverses this election/restriction requirement, and hereby requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this election/restriction requirement. As required, however, the Applicant provisionally elects claims 13-24 and 28-30 for prosecution in the event that this election/restriction requirement is made final.

Under 35 U.S.C. § 121, restriction is appropriate if two or more independent and distinct inventions are claimed in one

application. On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner sets forth that the two inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other materially different products; or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process. The Examiner goes on to assert that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process, such as by providing first and second circuit boards, applying an adhesive to join the first and second circuit boards, and then forming an opening in each of the first and second circuit boards.

However, it is respectfully submitted that the above-described process, asserted by the Examiner to be "another and materially different process", would not in fact result in the claimed product. That is, it is respectfully submitted that in the claimed system of the present application, the openings must be formed prior to joining the first and second circuit boards. Otherwise, if the first and second circuit boards are joined first, then there is no way to gain access to the areas of the first and second circuit boards where the openings need to be formed. Thus, the claimed product cannot be made by the above-described process asserted by the Examiner to be "another and materially different process." Accordingly, it is respectfully

submitted that the election/restriction requirement is improper, and the withdrawal of such election/restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

II. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made.

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Respectfully submitted,

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TEA/lhr

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